

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 L-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

BIB-01 EB-07 NIC-01 SAJ-01 CIEP-01 OMB-01 /053 W

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R 241455Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1804

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 0362

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT YO

SUBJECT: FIRST OFFICIAL ACTION ON SUSPENSION OF  
"BELGRADE EIGHT"

REF : BELGRADE 5817, 6512 AND 0223

1. SERBIAN GOVERNMENT, RESPONDING TO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS' INQUIRIES, ANNOUNCED JAN 22 THAT SERBIAN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL APPROVED JAN 8 A PROPOSAL TO SUSPEND A GROUP OF DISSIDENT PROFESSORS FROM BELGRADE UNIVERSITY. PROPOSAL WILL BE SENT TO SERBIAN ASSEMBLY FOR JAN 28 DEBATE AND VOTE. STATEMENT CLARIFIES PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT (BELGRADE 223). NEITHER ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN CARRIED IN LOCAL PRESS.

2. AFTER APPROVAL BY SERBIAN ASSEMBLY, SUSPENSION MUST THEN, IF NORMAL PROCEDURES ARE FOLLOWED, BE PROCLAIMED BY SERBIAN PRESIDENCY. THESE TWO REMAINING STEPS ARE EXPECTED TO BE FORMALITIES IN THIS CASE.

3. DEPT MAY HAVE SEEN INACCURATE JAN 22 UPI DISPATCH WHICH STATES ASSEMBLY IS CONSIDERING AMENDMENTS TO SERBIAN LAW TO PERMIT REMOVAL OF PROFESSORS. AMENDMENTS TO SERBIAN LAW ON HIGHER EDUCATION (BELGRADE 5817) TOOK EFFECT NOV 28, DAY  
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AFTER THEIR PUBLICATION IN SERBIAN OFFICIAL GAZETTE

(BELGRADE 6512). (TEXT AVAILABLE TO DEPT IN DEC 19  
TRANSLATION SERVICE.)

4. SPECIFIC ATTACKS ON EIGHT DISSIDENT PROFESSORS IN  
PHILOSOPHICAL FACULTY HAVE CONTINUED TO APPEAR IN MEDIA OVER  
PAST WEEK. NOTABLE HAVE BEEN LONG ARTICLE "POLITICAL MANIPULA-  
TION UNDER GUISE OF PHILOSOPHEY" IN JAN 18 POLITIKA AND  
SHORTER ATTACK ON SAME THEME IN JAN 16 VECERNJE NOVISTI.  
TV NEWS JAN 19 ACCUSED PROFESSORS OF COOPERATION WITH DJILAS  
TO OBTAIN FOREIGN SUPPORT AND STATED THE DISSIDENTS HAVE NO  
SUPPORT IN YUGOSLAVIA. JAN 19 NEDELJNE NOVOSTI ATTACKED  
WESTERN PRESS SUPPORT OF DISSIDENTS. NAMING NEW YORK TIMES,  
REUTERS, LONDON GUARDIAN, LE MONDE AND CORRIERE DELA SERA.

5. COMMENT: OUR OPINION IS THAT FINAL ACTION ON SUSPENDING  
DISSIDENTS CAN BE EXPECTED THIS MONTH. ONLY HINT OF THIS TO  
APPEAR IN LOCAL PRESS WAS STATEMENT BY BELGRADE PARTY LEADER  
DUSAN GLIGORIJEVIC DURING JAN 16 VISIT TO SARAJEVO. STATEMENT,  
BURIED IN LONG ARTICLE IN JAN 17 POLITIKA, REFERRED TO END OF  
SERIOUS PROBLEMS AT UNIVERSITY, STATING WITH NO QUALIFICATION  
"IN JANUARY EIGHT MORE PROFESSORS WILL LEAVE THE UNIVERSITY".

6. CRITICISM OF DISSIDENT PROFESSORS TO DATE SEEMS  
CHARACTERIZED BY ATTEMPT TO ATTACH EVERY POSSIBLE OPPOS-  
ITIONIST LABEL WITH LITTLE OR NO REGARD FOR FACTS. THEY ARE  
MOST FREQUENTLY ATTACKED AS "ANTI-SELF-MANAGEMENT" WHEREAS  
THEIR WRITINGS AND LECTURES ADVOCATE ADVANCED STATE OF  
SELF-MANAGEMENT, CRITICIZING PARTY AND STATE BUREAUCRACY FOR  
USURPING SELF-MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS PROPER TO WORKERS THEM-  
SELVES. ACCUSATIONS OF POLITICAL MANIPULATIONS UNDER GUISE  
OF PHILOSOPHY SOUND SUSPICIOUSLY SIMILAR TO ATTACKS LEVIED  
ON RELIGIOUS ACTIVISM OVER PAST MONTHS. A VERY FEW ELEMENTS  
IN ATTACKS SEEM CORRECT, FOR INSTANCE OPPOSITION TO PRESENT  
ROLE OF LC - BUT IN ABOVE NOTED CONTEXT - AS LIMITATION ON  
SELF-MANAGEMENT.  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
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